GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5171
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2005
ROYALTY ON MINERALS
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Assam and other States in the North Eastern Zone have been losing royalty from mineral resources including crude natural gas, coal and lime-stone since 2001-02;

(b) if so, the quantum of mineral resources exploited each year and the royalty received therefrom by the respective State Governments; and

(c) the main reasons for the decline in royalty and the steps taken or being taken to augment the State resources by way of royalty?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a)&(b). Mineral crude and natural gas are under administrative control of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, coal is under administrative control of Ministry of Coal and Ministry of Mines is concerned with limestone.

As per information furnished by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, the total amount paid by National Oil Companies and Private/Joint venture operators as royalty to various States in the North Eastern Zone is 452.67 crore, 599.42 crore and 667.98 crore for the year 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 respectively.

Ministry of Coal has reported that Assam and other State in the North Eastern Zone are not losing royalty on coal since 2001-2002.

As far as royalty on limestone is concerned , although rates of royalty are notified by the Ministry of Mines, the collection of royalty is done by the concerned State Government. The rates of royalty on limestone are given below:

	12.9.2000 to13.10.2004	14.10.2004 onwards.
a)	L.D. grade (less than one and half percent silica content)	Rs. 50 per tonne. Rs. 55 per tonne.
b)	Others.	Rs. 40 per tonne. Rs. 45 per tonne.

As per the information available with Indian Bureau of Mines, a subordinate office under administrative control of Ministry of Mines, limestone production in North Eastern Zone States was 7.30 lakh tonne, 8.39lakh tonne and 8.60 lakh tonne during the year 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-2004 respectively.

(c) In view of (a) & (b) above, does not arise. However, rates of royalty are revised by the Central Government periodically.